

CJW 2756  
PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Conwell et al.

Serial No. 09/578,551

Filed: May 25, 2000

For: METHODS OF LEASING VIRTUAL  
ADDRESSES

Examiner:

Date: December 15, 2000

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Art Unit 2756

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER AND THE DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO AS BEING ATTACHED OR ENCLOSED HEREWITH ARE BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE ON December 15, 2000, AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

William Y. Conwell  
Attorney for Applicant

Applicant submits herewith information of which he is aware, and which he believes may be material to the examination of the application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. The information is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and copies are enclosed.

Prior to applicant's filing, there existed services to which domain owners could post their domains for auction. An example is addressauction.com, for which a sample web page (copyright 1999) is submitted.

On May 10, 2000, Network Solutions, Inc. (NSI) issued a press release, announcing its intent to form an on-line marketplace for domain names ("Network Solutions Creates Online Marketplace for Customers' Domain Names"). An undated set of Frequently Asked Questions from the Network Solutions web site seems to describe this service.

After the filing of the present application, in about mid-June, 2000, Network Solutions began notifying owners of recently-expired domain names that their domain names would be auctioned at an upcoming NSI auction site (set to start, apparently, in July), if past-due payment was not promptly received. This is evidenced by a June 26, 2000, article from Wired ("NSI Commandeers Deadbeat Domains").

Please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1071 any fees that may be required for considering this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

DIGIMARC CORPORATION

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